that he called his wife " Delly," though she was Nelly, and always spoke as if he had a cold in his head. How strange ! If I did not understand what suggested impressions so different from my own, they would make me more indignant.

" Now who shall arbitrate ?
Ten men love what I hate.
Shun -what I follow, slight what I receive.
Ten who in ears and eyes
Match me; they all surmise.
They this thing, and I that:
Whom shall my soul believe ? "

What he owed to Mrs. Kean, he would have been the first to confess. In many ways she was the leading spirit in the theatre; at the least, a joint ruler, not a queen-consort. During the rehearsals Mr. Kean used to sit in the stalls with a loud-voiced dinner-bell by his side, and when anything went wrong on the stage, he would ring it ferociously, and everything would come to a stop, until Mrs. Kean, who always sat on the stage, had set right what was wrong. She was more formidable than beautiful to look at, but her wonderful fire and genius were none the less impressive because she wore a white handkerchief round her head and had a very beaky nose 1 How I admired and loved and feared her! Later on the fear was replaced by gratitude, for no woman ever gave herself more trouble to train a young actress than did Mrs. Kean. The love and admiration, I am glad to say, remained and grew. It is rare that it falls to the lot of any one to have such an accomplished teacher. Her patience and industry were

splendid.

It was Mrs. Kean who chose me out of five or six other children to play my first part. We were all tried in it, and